

What is an alcohol and drug assessment?

An alcohol or drug assessment is an interview between a driver and an alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) assessor. The assessor identifies the driver's alcohol/drug use. As part of the assessment, the assessor develops a driver safety plan for the driver. 37,443 assessments were completed in 2003.

When is an assessment required?

Anyone convicted of operating while intoxicated (OWI) is required to contact an approved assessment facility within 72 hours of conviction. Anyone with multiple OWI arrests/convictions over a specified period of time is ordered by WisDOT to have an assessment within 45 days. Second and subsequent OWI convictions require completion of an assessment before eligibility for an occupational license. An individual may voluntarily obtain an assessment after an arrest.

What are driver safety plans?

Driver safety plans for alcohol/drug related convictions are education or rehabilitation programs based on findings. For example, when an assessor identifies drivers as:

- **Irresponsible Users**, they are generally sent to a Group Dynamics-Traffic Safety program
- **Irresponsible Users-Borderline**, they are generally a combination of education and short-term, outpatient counseling
- **Suspected Chemical Dependent**, they are generally sent to outpatient treatment programs
- **Chemically Dependent**, they are generally sent to inpatient or intensive outpatient treatment programs
- **Dependency in Remission**, any combination of treatment or education.

What happens after the driver completes an assessment?

The assessor submits a report to the DMV. The Compliance and Restoration Section in the Bureau of Driver Services screens the report to see whether:

- the assessment and driver safety plan are appropriate
- the assessor recommends the individual for a license
- the assessment mentions all OWI related offenses

The person may be eligible for a license once the plan is submitted.

What happens to non-compliant drivers?

All licenses are withdrawn, including occupational licenses, if a person receives another arrest for OWI while in a plan or does not:

- appear for an assessment
- comply with a driver safety plan
- pay the fee for the assessment or the driver safety plan

In 2003, Compliance and Restoration processed 17,708 non-compliance cases.

For more information contact:

Bureau of Driver Services
Compliance and Restoration Section
Alcohol/Drug Review Unit
(608) 261-8202
Email: cnr.dmv@dot.state.wi.us